



**STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**  
**DIVISION OF PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES**

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603-271-4596 1-800-852-3345 Ext. 4596  
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Nicholas A. Toumpas  
Commissioner

José Thier Montero  
Director

**Message Type:** Health Alert  
**Status:** Actual  
**Severity:** Moderate  
**Sensitive:** No  
**Jurisdiction:** State

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**DATE:** January 12, 2009

**TO:** Infection Control Practitioners, Long Term Care Facilities, School Nurses, School Administrators, DHHS Outbreak Team and DPHS Management Team

**FROM:** José T. Montero, MD, Director

**SUBJECT:** Peanut Butter contaminated with *Salmonella* Recalled

**NH Department of Health and Human Services (NH DHHS) recommends:**

- Reviewing the recall announcement to determine if your institutional setting serves the recalled product. Please share this alert with your dietary/food service department.
- Contacting the NH DHHS Food Protection Section at 603-271-4589 to notify that your institution serves the recalled product and to discuss handling of the product.
- Timely reporting of *Salmonella* cases to the NH DHHS Communicable Disease Control and Surveillance Section at 603-271-4496 (after hours 1-800-852-3345 ext.5300)

**Background:**

On Friday, January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2009, the Minnesota Department of Agriculture identified *Salmonella* bacteria in a 5-pound container of King Nut brand creamy peanut butter. The peanut butter was tested as part of a national investigation into an outbreak of *Salmonella* Typhimurium infections. As of Friday, January 9, 2009, 399 persons infected with the outbreak strains of *Salmonella* Typhimurium have been reported from 42 states. There are 10 cases associated with the outbreak in New Hampshire and NH DHHS is working with federal and state public health officials to investigate the outbreak's source.

On Saturday, January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2009, the distributor of King Nut brand peanut butter, King Nut Companies of Solon, Ohio, issued a voluntary recall of peanut butter with lot codes beginning with "8," sold as King Nut peanut butter and Parnell's Pride peanut butter. The company sells only to institutional accounts such as nursing homes, hospitals, schools and restaurants. NH DHHS is working to determine the extent to which the product has been distributed in New Hampshire. The list of products included in this recall may expand as the investigation continues.

Most persons infected with *Salmonella* develop diarrhea, fever, and abdominal cramps 12 to 72 hours after infection. Infection is usually diagnosed by culture of a stool sample. The illness usually lasts 4 to 7 days. Although most people recover without treatment, severe infections may occur. Infants, elderly persons, and those with impaired immune systems are more likely than others to develop severe illness.

Visit the CDC website for additional information on the national outbreak:

<http://www.cdc.gov/salmonella/typh0109/010909.html>

Visit the King Nut Companies website or see attachment for the Recall Announcement:

<http://www.kingnut.com/site.cfm/news.cfm>

**Attachment: King Nut Recall Announcement**

**CATEGORIES OF HEALTH ALERT NETWORK (HAN) MESSAGES:**

**Message Type:**

Health Alert:	Conveys the highest level of importance; warrants immediate action or attention
Health Advisory:	Provides important information for a specific incident or situation; may not warrant immediate action
Health Update:	Provides updated information regarding an incident or situation
Cancel:	Prior communications alert has been canceled
Error:	Prior alert or communication has been retracted

**Status:**

Actual:	Communication or alert refers to a live event
Exercise:	Designated recipients must respond to the communication or alert
Test:	Communication or alert is related to a technical, system test and should be disregarded

**Severity:**

Extreme:	Extraordinary threat to life or property
Severe:	Significant threat to life or property
Moderate:	Possible threat to life or property
Minor:	Minimal threat to life or property
Unknown:	Unknown threat to life or property

**Sensitive:**

Yes:	Indicates sensitive content is included
No:	Indicates non-sensitive content is included

**Jurisdiction:**

National:	Indicates national recipients
State:	Indicates state recipients
Territorial:	Indicates territorial recipients
Local:	Indicates local recipients

**You have received this message based upon the information contained within our emergency notification database. If you have a different or additional e-mail or fax address that you would prefer to be used please contact Denise Krol, NH HAN Coordinator, by phone at 603-271-4596 or by email at [denise.krol@dhhs.state.nh.us](mailto:denise.krol@dhhs.state.nh.us)**